

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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E.O. 11652:N/A

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SUBJECT- EXCHANGES: ROMANIAN EDUCATION DELEGATION

REF: BUCHAREST 1501

1. ROMANIAN DELEGATION ARRIVED WASHINGTON EVENING OF APRIL 15. WERE MET BY OFFICIALS OF DEPARTMENT, ROMANIAN EMBASSY, AND DR. KEITH HITCHINS, MEMBER OF US DELEGATION TO ROMANIA.

2. GROUP MET MORNING OF APRIL 16 WITH OFFICIALS OF CIES AND DRS. ODEGAARD AND HITCHINS TO GO OVER US PROGRAM. DECIDED TO CANCEL VISIT TO GAINESVILLE TO AVOID OVER-CROWDING ALREADY FULL SCHEDULE. OTHERWISE PROGRAM REMAINS AS GIVEN IN STATE 69331.

3. SPENT AFTERNOON VISITING TOURIST SITES IN WASHINGTON, INCLUDING CAPITOL, SMITHSONIAN MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND ARLINGTON CEMETARY. USIA OFFICER FERNANDEZ HOSTED INFORMAL DINNER FOR GROUP IN EVENING.

4. MORNING OF APRIL 17 DEVOTED TO WORK-SHOP SESSION IN WHICH BACKGROUND, ORGANIZATION, AND GOALS OF US SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION EXPLAINED TO ROMANIAN VISITORS. PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SESSION INCLUDED DR. LLOYD ELLIOTT, PRESIDENT, GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY; DR. ERNST WEBER, CHAIRMAN, DIVISION OF ENGINEERING, NATIONAL RESEARCH

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COUNCIL; DR. VIRGINIA SMITH, DIRECTOR, FUND FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF POST SECONDARY EDUCATION, US OFFICE OF EDUCATION, DHEW; AND DR. CAROL VAN ALSTYNE, CHIEF ECONOMIST, POLICY ANALYSIS SERVICE, AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION.

5. IN AFTERNOON, GROUP CALLED ON DR. ROBERT LEETSMA, DIRECTOR OF DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION, USOE, AND MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF. THEN GROUP ATTENDED RECEPTION IN THEIR HONOR AT WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL CENTER JOINTLY HOSTED BY WIC AND CIES. IMMEDIATELY AFTER RECEPTION,

DEPARTED FOR AIRPORT AND FLIGHT TO ALBANY, NEW YORK, FIRST STOP ON TOUR OF U.S. GROUP IS ACCOMPANIED BY CAO RICHARD GILBERT AND STATE DEPARTMENT ESCORT-INTERPRETER EDMOND CLAY.

6. ON APRIL 18 GROUP WARMLY RECEIVED AT RENSSLAER POLYTECHNIC BY PRESIDENT RPI, DEANS, AND FACULTY. THEY VISITED CLASSES AND LABORATORIES, HAD OPPORTUNITY TALK TO STUDENTS AND FACULTY.

7. ARE TRAVELING TO CORNELL UNIVERSITY TODAY, ON TO UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHAMPAIGN OVER WEEKEND. VISITORS APPEAR PLEASED WITH PROGRAM, EAGERLY LOOKING FORWARD TO TRAVELS IN U.S. WILL RETURN TO WASHINGTON APRIL 30, CONTINUE TO NEW YORK MAY ONE AND DEPART FOR ROMANIA MAY 2. RUSH

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